



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/693,280	10/20/2000	Paul Lapstun	NPA040US	7428

24011 7590 12/23/2003

SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD
393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN, 2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER

TRAN, DALENA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3661	

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/693,280	LAPSTUN ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Dalena Tran	3661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 September 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This office action is responsive to the amendment filed on 9/10/03. Claims 1-3 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, are rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Izawa (5,385,371) in view of Heuwieser et al. (4,668,858).

As per claim 1, Izawa discloses a method of enabling a user to plan a route using a computer system, including steps: printing a map of a geographic area, the map including a plurality of geographic locations and coded data indicative of an identity of the map of a plurality of references points of the map (see columns 1-2, lines 63-19), receiving in the computer system indicating data from a sensing device operated by the user, the indicating data regarding the identity of the map and a position of the sensing device relative to the map (see columns 2-3, lines 58-28; columns 4-5, lines 60-35; and column 5, lines 53-68), the sensing device, when placed in an operative position relative to the map, the sensing device sensing the coded data in the vicinity of a particular geographic location and generating the indicating data using at least some of the sensed coded data (see columns 3-4, lines 44-18), and identifying in the computer system and from the indicating data, at least one geographic location (see column 2, lines 20-38).

Izawa does not disclose planning the route. However, Heuwieser et al. disclose planning the route, in the computer system, using the at least one geographic location as at least one of the route starting point, a route way point, and the route destination (see columns 1-2, lines 26-54; and column 3, lines 14-54). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Izawa by combining planning the route, in the computer system, using the at least one geographic location as at least one of the route starting point, a route way point, and the route destination to assist driver to determine a travel route to a destination.

As per claim 2, Izawa discloses printing a map covering at least part of the geographic area covered by the route (see column 4, lines 28-59).

Claim 3 is system claim corresponding to method claims 1-2 above. Therefore, it is rejected for the same rationales set forth as above.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's argument filed on 9/10/03 has been fully considered and they are deemed to be persuasive. However, upon updated search, the new ground of rejection has been set forth as above.

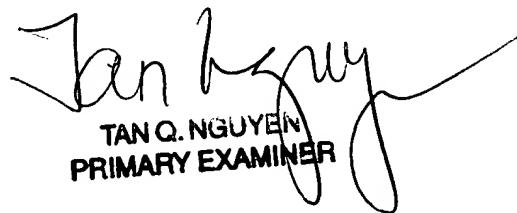
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalena Tran whose telephone number is 703-308-8223. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30 AM-5:30 PM), off every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Cuchlinski can be reached on 703-308-3873. The fax phone numbers for the

Art Unit: 3661

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tan Nguyen".

TAN Q. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

/dt

December 9, 2003